

REMARKS

By this preliminary amendment, Applicant is presenting amended claims for the Examiner's consideration. Applicant is filing a continued prosecution application ("CPA") in response to what is believed to be a premature final action in the prior application. In the final action dated November 12, 1999, Examiner indicated that all the claims in the prior application (filed September 23, 1999, serial no. 09/040,509) were drawn to the same invention claimed in the earlier application (filed March 17, 1998; serial no. 09/040,509). In fact, a preliminary amendment was submitted by counsel to the Applicant and the assignee of record on October 27, 1999. By that preliminary amendment the scope of claims 29 and 36 and thus their dependent claims was amended and new claims were introduced. Nevertheless, Applicant is filing a continuation application to continue prosecution of the claims that were rejected in the prior application. Those claims have been further amended and the amendments are highlighted (additions by underlining and deletions in brackets) so the Examiner can easily note the amendments.

The Examiner rejected the prior scope, in particular, the scope defined by claims 29-35, under 35 U.S.C. Section 102, and claims 36-42, under 35 U.S.C. Section 103. Claims 29-35 were rejected in view of Hester alone, and claims 36-42 were rejected in view of a combination of Hester and Barger. Applicant submits that the claims, as amended, further distinguish them from both Hester and Barger, considered alone or in combination. Also, particularly, with respect to claims 36-42, Applicant submits that neither Hester nor Barger discloses calling number identification data that is required by the claims.

Applicant respectfully requests favorable consideration of the present claims.

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633 W. Fifth Street, Suite 4700
Los Angeles, CA 90071-2066
(213) 489-1600

Respectfully submitted,

LYON & LYON, LLP

By

Reena Kuyper

Registration No. 33,830